United Nations A/62/927–S/2008/541

General Assembly
Security Council

Distr.: General
11 August 2008

Original: English

General Assembly
Sixty-second session
Agenda item 16
Protracted conflicts in the GUAM area and their implications for international peace, security and development

Security Council
Sixty-third year

Identical letters dated 9 August 2008 from the Permanent Representative of Georgia to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General and the President of the Security Council

I have the honour to transmit the annexed press statement issued by the Government of Georgia on 9 August 2008 regarding the situation in Georgia.

I should be grateful if the present letter and its annex could be circulated as a document of the General Assembly, under agenda item 16, and of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Irakli **Alasania**
Permanent Representative

08-45767 (E) 120808

Annex to the identical letters dated 9 August 2008 from the Permanent Representative of Georgia to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General and the President of the Security Council

Press statement of the Government of Georgia

9 August 2008

Russia bombs Georgian, European and United States strategic interests

Late last night the Russian air force dropped 30 bombs on the outskirts of Tbilisi near the BTC pipeline and the parallel Shahbeniz pipeline, which transport oil and gas to Europe and the United States of America. Of the 30 bombs that fell, 28 exploded. Several of them came within five metres of the pipelines.

These attacks go far beyond bombing any solely Georgian strategic interests. The BTC pipeline transports about 800 barrels a day to Turkey, Europe and the United States of America and the Shahbeniz pipeline transports 6 million cubic metres of gas a day to Europe.

Russia's attacks have directly threatened the strategic interests of Europe and the United States of America at a time when the world is struggling with high energy prices. Furthermore, Russia is attempting to expand its stranglehold on European energy markets by making several European countries almost completely dependent on Russian energy supplies.